

REMARKS

As indicated above claims 1-37 are cancelled. Claims 1-37 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 38-56 are presented above. Support for the claims may be found in the Application as originally filed, and more specifically, at least in: FIGs. 2, 4a-4b, 7 and 5b. No new matter has been added by the above amendments.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.607 claims 38-48 correspond substantially to claims presented in U.S. 6,540,775 to Fischell et al., issued April 1, 2003 and are presented herein in order to provoke an interference with the U.S. 6,540,775 patent.

Though not copied, instant claims 38-41 correspond substantially to claims 1-4 of the 6,540,775 reference, instant claims 42-43 correspond substantially to claims 7-8 of the 6,540,775 reference, and instant claims 44-46 correspond substantially to claims 10-12 of the 6,540,775 reference.

Instant claim 47 is copied from claim 14 of the 6,540,775 patent.

Instant claim 48 is an alternative to instant claim 38 and likewise corresponds substantially to claim 1 of the 6,540,775 reference. Instant claims 49-52 are dependent from instant claims 48 and correspond substantially to claims 1-4 of the 6,540,775 reference. Instant claims 52-53 are also dependent from instant claim 48 and correspond substantially to claims 7-8 of the 6,540,775 reference. Instant claims 54-56 are dependent from instant claim 48 and correspond substantially to claims 10-12 of the 6,540,775 reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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